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ADVOCATE OF PEACE.

MARCH AND APRIL, 1851.

THE NEXT PEACE CONGRESS.

To the Friends of Peace in the United States.

It is well known to the people of this country, that there have been held, within the last seven or eight years, four General Peace Congresses in the Old World — the first at London in 1843, the next at Brussels in 1848, the third at Paris in 1849, and the fourth at Frankfort in Germany last summer ; each attended by a large number of delegates from different and distant parts of Christendom, and many of them distinguished not only for their talents, learning and philanthropy, but for their high standing and influence in society, church and state ; men speaking various languages, living under almost every form of government, and professing a wide diversity of political and religious views, yet all drawn together by their attachment to the cause of peace as an object of common and absorbing interest to the whole human race.

These Congresses have served, as they were designed, to promote fraternal intercourse, and strengthen the bonds of amity, between the people of different countries ; to bring the friends of peace in particular into fuller acquaintance with each other in their great work ; to devise and agree upon the best means of accomplishing their object, permanent peace among all nations ; to present and keep this object more prominently before the world, as a grand desideratum of the age ; and especially to fix the attention both of people and of rulers on the duty, importance and feasibility of gradually abating the enormous evils of the present war-system, and finally superseding its alleged necessity, by the adoption of rational, peaceful, Christian substitutes, far more efficacious than the sword for all purposes of international justice, security and peace.

The next of these world-congresses is to be held at London, probably about the middle of the coming July, in connexion with the World's Industrial Exhibition, that grand development of the new and better spirit which has begun to pervade the nations ; a demonstration that would have been impossible fifty or even twenty years ago ; itself a decisive proof of the progress already made in our cause, one of the fruits of the general peace enjoyed in Europe for some third of a century, and likely to become an important auxiliary in the work of universal and permanent peace. It must of course be an occasion of great interest to all persons of enlarged, philanthropic views, and will doubtless draw together vast multitudes from every continent and well-nigh every country on the globe.

Such an opportunity for the cause of peace has never occurred in the whole history of our race ; and, desirous of turning it to the best account, the American Peace Society, in concert with their co-workers in this country and in Europe, would request the friends of peace throughout the United States to aid us in procuring from their respective localities suitable delegates to the proposed Peace Congress in London next July. We address them thus early in order to give ample time for preparation. We should of course prefer the most devoted, thorough-going friends of our cause, more especially judicious, Christian men ; but there will be required in delegates only an intelligent, cordial, active interest in the promotion of international peace ; and any person of good general character, disposed to co-operate in efforts for the abolition of war as a custom repugnant to Christianity, and hostile to the best interests of mankind, will be welcomed to membership in the Congress. We would invite not only Peace Societies, but all other philanthropic associations, the friends of peace in any city or town, seminaries of learning, and all scientific and literary societies, local churches, and ecclesiastical bodies of every denomination, to send one or more delegates. Unable ourselves to canvass the country for the purpose, we would request our friends, in every part of the land, to inform us, at their earliest convenience, of any suitable persons in their vicinity who may be inclined, or might be induced, to attend as delegates. The persons, selected by any of the bodies we have designated, can receive, if they choose, a commission from our Society ; and we request, in any event, the communication of their names to us, or to the American Peace Congress Committee, as early, if possible, as the first of June, and as much sooner as may be convenient.

The World's Industrial Exhibition is to be opened in the Spring ; but, as the fee for admission will for a time be excessively high, and as all minds will be for weeks, perhaps for months, too much engrossed with that unique and magnificent demonstration to allow meanwhile a proper degree of interest in an object like ours, the Peace Congress is to be fixed at a day likely to secure the best attendance, and the largest share of public attention. We shall in due time inform our friends of the precise day of the Congress, not yet settled ; but we are doubtless safe in saying now, that it will be in season for delegates to start in *packets* by the middle of June, or in the last *steamer* of that month. Past experience proves that no arrangements, satisfactory to all, can be made for taking out the delegates in a body ; but we presume, that a passage out and back can be had in packets from Boston, New York or Philadelphia, for \$100, perhaps for \$75. The former is an offer already made by some lines from the United States, and the latter by lines from Canada ; so that the expense of attending the World's Industrial Exhibition and Peace Congress, need not exceed some \$200 ; a very cheap purchase of the advantages to be derived from attendance on such a Convention and Jubilee of the World ; a privilege not to be expected by any man more than once in his life.

On behalf of the American Peace Society, and by order of its Executive Committee,

CHARLES BROOKS, *Chairman*.

G. C. BECKWITH, *Cor. Secretary*.

WM. C. BROWN, *Rec. Secretary*.

Boston, January, 1851.